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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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General Information from the Varna Area

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#### Navy

- 1. The headquarters of naval units stationed in Varna, located in southern Varna near the port area in what was formerly a stock-exchange building, have been redesignated the "Bulgarian Naval Forces Admiralty."
- Rear Admiral Atanasov, Commander of the Bulgarian Navy, an ardent Communist, educated and trained in the USSR, resides in the Admiralty building.
- 3. The Bulgarian Naval fleet, stationed at Varna, is composed of the following ships:
  - a. One large Soviet warship; the entire complement of the ship received training in the USSR; 1
  - b. Two big Soviet warships, transferred from the USSR to Bulgaria during late 1949 or early 1950; entire complement of both ships were trained in the USSR;
  - c. Four motor torpedo boats, pre-World War II English type, approximate speed 30 knots;
  - d. Four motor torpedo boats, German type, approximate speed 30 knots;
  - e. Six motor torpedo boats, new Soviet type, approximate speed 30 knots;
  - f. Four old torpedo boats, formerly named the DURSKI, SMELI, KHRABI, and STRASHNI; and

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g. Several mine-sweepers, constructed at the Varna government shippards.

## Shippards and Shipping

- 4. The Koralovag government shippard and all other government shippards located at Varna were united and placed under the single directorship of KORBSO (Bulgaro-Suvetsko Druzhestvo za Korabostroene; Bulgarian-Soviet Association for Shipbuilding) sometime during 1950.
- 5. The yards, outfitted with Soviet equipment and machines, are currently building 3,000 tons of ships and lighters.
- 6. As of 16 October 1951, approximately six lighters had already been completed by the KORBSO yards and transported to the USSR.
- 7. All foreign ships entering the port of Varna must obtain port clearances from Vasil Fedorovich Osipov, Soviet engineer, port chief of operations. Osipov is assisted by a certain Khochemina, last name unknown, a female secretary.
- 8. Soviet ships, transporting various manufactured products, machinery, steel, arms, and military equipment call two or three times each week.
- Arms and military equipment are discharged only at night while the dock area is completely blacked out; goods are bandled entirely by Communist or politically reliable dock workers.
- Returning from Bulgaria to the USSR, these ships transport wheat, cheese, various food products, and gray-colored ore.

#### Geological Research

- 11. A Soviet Geological Research Commission operates in Varna and vicinity.
- 12. Until 16 October 1951, the Commission had made extensive, but unsuccessful surveys for oil throughout the Provadiya district. However, it is currently rumored that the Commission has discovered extensive oil deposits at Shabla village, Kavarna district.<sup>2</sup>
- 13. The Bulgarian government is currently engaged in "secret" para-military and pre-induction military training of Bulgarian youth through the NSST (Naroden Suyuz za Sport i Teknika; National Union for Sport and Technique).3
- 14. NSST members, chosen from male DSNM (Dimitrovski Suyuz na Narodnata Mladezh; Dimitrov Union of the People's Youth), attend periodic voluntary training courses in parachuting, glider-flying, arms familiarization, marksmanship, boating, and horsemanship.

#### Miscellaneous

15. Reserves, officers, and enlisted men in the Varna area are still being recalled for 45 days temporary active duty for familiarization and training with new Soviet arms and equipment.

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discovery of oil in Shabla.

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16.	A concrete pleris under construction somewhere in the channel between the Varna port area and Lake Devnya.	
17.	A soda factory is under construction at Beloslav village, Varna district.	
18.	The following Army units are stationed in Varna and vicinity:	
	a. The 8 Infantry Regiment; and	
	b. An unidentified coast artillery regiment, three-battery complement, located at Traka, Tashle-Tepe (Tas Tere N4239 E2707?) and Uzun-Kum.	
19.	Allegedly, "all" Bulgarian antiaircraft regiments, equipped with approximately 100 guns, are encamped on a plain in the Galata peninsula area while undergoing weapon familiarization, training, and daily practice drills against sleeves towed by planes.	
	1. Comment: Probably a reference to the old destroyer, GEORGI DIMITROV, formerly the Soviet NOZANLOSHNIK.	25X1/

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25X1A 25X1A 3. For further information on the NSST, your attention

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